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SECURITY INFORMATION

50X1

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT

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COUNTRY

Hungary

DATE DISTR. 1 December 1952

SUBJECT

Crop Damage in 1952

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO. 50X1-HUM

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2. The entire country has felt the effects of the inclement weather in the fall of 1951 and the spring of 1952. There is an acute shortage of grains and fodder. Regions which were affected include: Alföld, Sopron, Mosony-Magyaróvár, County Békés, Szolnok, Szeged, Fűzesabony, Balassagyarmat, Salgótarján, Eger, Miskolc, Sátoraljaujhely, Putnok, Veszprem, Pépa and Goemoer. Specifically, in Alföld, where ordinarily farmers harvest 17-18 hundredweight of wheat per hold (a hold contains from 3,200 to 5,300 square yards), the yield in 1952 was seven to eight hundredweight. In Sátoraljaujhely, the ordinary yield is nine to ten hundredweight of wheat per hold, but this year's yield was four to five hundredweight. In the Szarazvoelgy area of the Putnok region the ordinary yield of wheat is seven to eight hundredweight per hold; this year's yield was two to three hundredweight per hold. Other grain crops were damaged in similar proportions. The loss in the wheat, oats, and maize crops, was certainly not less than 40 per cent. Fodder was also damaged extensively, but the total damage to the fodder crop may amount to only about 25 per cent because the first fodder crop suffered less severely than the others.

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3. [redacted] Radio and propaganda have spread false reports about crops, speaking of fulfilled quotas even when this was not the case. Independent farmers have been deported for failure to fulfill their delivery quotas. [redacted] in some places co-operative members will get less for their crops than they put in. Farmers are worried and dissatisfied. They fear the winter. If the Russians take their regular quota of grains and fodder, there will be hunger by December 1952 in Hungary. Farmers hope that the Russians will send Ukrainian potatoes to Hungary this year, as they have on previous occasions.

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